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Serial No.: 10/588,824  
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Response to November 16, 2010 Non-Final Office Action

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the following sections of the specification:

- Page 1, the paragraph extending from lines 3-5 as follows:

The present invention relates to a procedure as defined in the preamble of claim 4 and to an apparatus as defined in the preamble of claim 5 use in dry forming of a fibre layer.

- The paragraphs extending from page 2, line 12 to page 3, line 18 as follows:

To solve the above-mentioned problem, improved versions of the above solutions have been developed. Finnish patent no. FI158804 discloses a solution, which includes an arrangement for circulation of the fibre flow conveying air. In the basic one such a solution according to this patent, the fibre flow is spread onto a forming surface by means of a downwards widening discharge conduit.

Similarly, figures 5-7 present a second embodiment in which the a supply conduit is divided into four separate discharge conduits. As the device has no flow adjustment in the supply or discharge conduit, the device requires the use of complex mixers to mix the fibre mass to produce a layer as even as possible on the forming surface of the wire. The drawback is a complicated and failure-prone construction that requires frequent maintenance.

Finnish patent no. FI73720 and corresponding US patent no. US4761858 also disclose an improved structure for producing from the fibre flow a layer as even as possible on the forming wire. The apparatus is provided with air

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circulation and an intermediate chamber placed above the drum former and having in its upper and lower parts mutually perpendicular fins for adjustment of the passage of the fibre flow. The adjustment enables a more even formation of the fibre layer, but the problem here is that the adjustment can not be made during operation. Therefore it is not possible to achieve an ideal adjustment and the time required for the adjustment reduces the operating time of the apparatus. Moreover, the adjustment made from the fins is a complicated and difficult operation. An additional disadvantage is that the lattices formed by the fins are tight and are easily blocked, necessitating an interruption of production and cleaning of the lattices.

The object of the present invention is to overcome the above-mentioned drawbacks and to achieve an effective and reliable former structure that produces a fibre layer as even as possible and makes it possible to attain a good final result and capacity in conjunction with the manufacture of paper or corresponding material. The procedure of the invention is characterized by what is disclosed in the characterization part of claim 1. Correspondingly, the apparatus of the invention is characterized by what is disclosed in the characterization part of claim 5. Other embodiments of the invention are characterized by what is disclosed in the other claims.